

Recycling & Green Waste Contamination

Fresno spends about \$500,000 a year to remove contamination found in recycling carts. Items such as diapers, clothing, or food waste are considered contamination when placed in the blue recycling cart. Contamination is also a problem in green waste carts. For example, when people put leaves and grass in plastic bags prior to disposal, these bags must be removed by hand before the material can be processed. Plastic and trash of any kind can contaminate your green waste cart.

If items are found contaminating your cart, the following will occur:

1 st instance	.....	Notice of Violation
2 nd instance	.....	Notice of Violation
3 rd instance	.....	\$50 Fine
4 th instance	.....	\$100 Fine
5 th instance	.....	\$200 Fine
All violations thereafter	.....	\$200 Fine, up to \$1,500 (per fiscal year)

These fines will show up on your City Utility Bill.

For information regarding what items belong in each cart visit the Green, Gray, and Blue cart pages.

Below are some images of contaminated carts found throughout Fresno.

Carpet & Clothing



Styrofoam



Food



Blue Cart



Wood, Kleenex,
Used Paper Towels



Rubber, Styrofoam



Food, Styrofoam,
Used Paper Products

Fabrics



Plastic Bag, Metal,
Paper, Plastic



Trash & Recyclables



Green Cart



Styrofoam



Animal Waste



Plastic Bag